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COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION
Thirty-first session
13 May-7 June 1991
Agenda item 7

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS THIRTY-FIRST SESSION

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Boris GOUDIMA (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic)

III. PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

Section 6. Special Political Questions; Regional Cooperation; Trusteeship and Decolonization

1. At its 29th meeting, on 31 May, the Committee considered section 6 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

Discussion

2. A number of delegations expressed the view that the activities to be carried out under programme 37, subprogramme 4, Special emergency programmes, did not belong to section 6. Such activities were very similar to those programmed under Section 30, Disaster relief operations, and section 29A, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Fragmentation of activities and responsibilities for the implementation of programmes should be avoided.

3. Some delegations questioned the programme of work and the requirements requested for subprogrammes 1 and 2. This comment applied to the Trusteeship Council and to the Committee of 27. It was noted that within the last Trust Territory, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, only Palau remains under the Trusteeship system. Other delegations expressed their support for the mandates and activities proposed in this section.

4. A number of delegations also requested information about the number of meetings anticipated for the Trusteeship Council.

5. With regard to the proposed conversion of 12 posts from temporary to established status, several delegations were not convinced of the merits of the proposal since, in their view, the activities in this section were transitory. These delegations stated that sufficient justification had not been provided for the proposed conversion.

6. Different views were expressed on the proposed redeployment of a D-2 post from subprogramme 2, Trusteeship and Decolonization, to subprogramme 4, Special emergency programmes. Several delegations supported this proposal. Others expressed doubts on its justification. Still others indicated that it might negatively affect the implementation of subprogramme 2. A number of delegations indicated that more resources should be allocated to subprogramme 4.

7. The view was expressed that, in the light of the phased decrease in the workload of the Transitional Unit through the expiration of the residual programmes of Namibia in 1994, a corresponding decrease in resources should have been made.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Committee recommended that the results of the review requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/248, section B, paragraph 13, on the functions of the Unit for Special Emergency Programmes should be brought to the attention of the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

9. The Committee recommended that the programme narrative of section 6 should be revised so as to read at the end of paragraph 6.18 "in pursuance of resolutions of the General Assembly and United Nations organs." The Committee further recommended that the number and volume of activities should be adjusted to take account of the requirements necessary to fulfil those decisions.

10. The Committee noted the proposed resource allocation in this section and recommended that the Secretary-General should review this proposed allocation in the light of recent developments and recommended that, in order to assist the General Assembly, revised estimates should be submitted to the forty-sixth session. Any proposals in that regard should have no negative impact on the Organization's ability to carry out mandated activities under subprogramme 2,

both in respect of the remaining territories on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories and in respect of the trusteeship system.

11. The Committee recommended approval by the General Assembly of the programme narrative of section 6 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 subject to the above conclusions.